

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6942

BILL NUMBER: SB 477

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 7, 2013

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Wild Animal Permits.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Crider

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
X DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill provides that a licensed commercial animal dealer is not exempt from the law requiring certain persons to obtain a state wild animal permit. The bill allows the director of the Department of Natural Resources to adopt rules that: (1) require a permit for each harmful or dangerous wild animal; or (2) allow one permit for all the wild animals contained in a single location. (Current law requires a separate permit for each harmful or dangerous wild animal.)

Effective Date: July 1, 2013.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Department of Natural Resources (DNR)* - This bill could impact the DNR's cost of issuing permits and conducting inspections. The number of wild animal permittees could increase due to the provision that licensed commercial animal dealers are no longer exempt from the requirement to obtain a wild animal permit. However, the overall number of permits issued could decrease if the DNR adopts rules requiring only one permit for all wild animals contained in a single location, versus the current rules that require a permit for each animal.

Explanation of State Revenues: *Permit Fees* - Revenue generated from the \$10 wild animal permit fee will be affected to the extent that this bill affects the number of these permits issued by the DNR. However, the amount may not be more than is reasonably necessary to generate revenue sufficient to offset costs incurred by the DNR. The change in permit fee revenue will ultimately depend on the rules that the DNR adopts under this bill.

Permit fees are deposited in the state Fish and Wildlife Fund. Permits must be renewed annually, and

inspections are conducted annually, but there is no fee for the renewal of a permit. Currently DNR issues an average of about 70 new wild animal possession permits each year.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Natural Resources.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Chris Smith, Department of Natural Resources.

Fiscal Analyst: Lauren Sewell, 317-232-9586.